

Bringing you news from the world of New Zealand real estate.

New Zealand Real Estate 2024. From hesitation to hustle.

By Bryan Thomson

Welcome to the New Year and the new look New Zealand real estate landscape. Gone are the days of uncertainty and sluggish sales – a wave of renewed interest and urgency is washing over buyers, leaving low volumes in 2023 a distant memory.

Here's what's fuelling the fire:

- **Buyer confidence is on the rise.**

After a year of economic jitters and interest rate fluctuations, buyers are shaking off the dust and stepping back into the market with renewed determination. This pent-up demand is creating a dynamic environment where the expertise of our Harcourts network will be invaluable in meeting and exceeding your housing needs.

- **Small towns present big opportunities.** Our Harcourts network across the country are buzzing with news of smaller townships experiencing an influx of out-of-town buyers. These charming communities offer attractive house values compared to bustling cities, making them irresistible to those seeking a slice of the Kiwi dream at a more accessible price.



- **Cash kings rule the market.**

With the current buyer-driven market, cash is king. For those of you with ready funds, Harcourts will enable you to move quickly and close deals without the burden of financing, giving you a significant advantage.

- **Investor resurgence.** The recent policy changes regarding interest deductibility have sparked a welcome

flicker of interest from investors.

This influx of experienced players adds another layer of dynamism to the market, creating a more balanced ecosystem.

- **Are you ready to make the move?**

Contact one of our expert team of sales consultants from throughout New Zealand today by visiting [harcourts.net/nz](https://www.harcourts.net/nz). We can't wait to show you how we can help make your real estate dreams a reality in 2024.

Top nine online - 9 tips to boost your online security

Social media has become an integral part of our daily lives, with millions of people communicating with each other worldwide. Although social media can be a powerful tool for individuals and businesses, it also presents a range of security risks. In recent years, we have seen high-profile privacy breaches that have caused significant harm to individuals and companies. Here we will explore the importance of social media security and discuss nine different ways you can protect yourself online.

Why is it important to manage your online security?

Best practice and the privacy settings on social media platforms allow users to control who sees the information they put out there, and as a result – controls how secure your information is.

Here's Harcourts quick guide to avoiding accounts getting hacked, privacy being breached and scams getting through.

H.A.R.C.O.U.R.T.S top nine security tips

H Have unique and secure passwords.

Use unique passwords for each account. Avoid reusing passwords. Never share login information.

A Apply multi-factor authentication.

Two-factor authentication protects your account by requiring a code if there is a login attempt from a device not recognised.

R Review your friend list/connections.

Review existing connections to find and remove any suspicious profiles. Remain careful about who to add.



C Check your account security settings.

Review your social media account privacy and security settings periodically to ensure that your settings are kept updated.

O Organise a VPN.

A Virtual Private Network (VPN) is the most effective way to secure your identity from hackers and other online trackers, thanks to the advanced encryption VPNs use.

U Use the 'block' button.

Block anyone who does not look legit, sending spam messages, or interfering with your privacy.

R Remember to log out.

Make sure to log out of all your accounts before leaving your computer or smartphone unattended.

T Think before you post.

How harmless is that picture? How innocent is that comment? What is it revealing about you and yours? Who can see it?

S Scam and phishing awareness.

Social media security is vital to protecting yourself online. By understanding the risks and taking

steps to secure your accounts, you can reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of cyber-attacks or other forms of online crime.

Remember to use strong passwords, enable two-factor authentication, be cautious of scams and phishing attempts, and use privacy settings. By taking these steps, you can enjoy the benefits of social media while protecting your personal information. Never click suspicious links, even if they appear to come from a friend or a company you know. Don't trust ads or offers featuring tech support, giveaways, or prize money.

Ask yourself...

Before you click on a link or submit any personal information online, ask yourself how you would behave with your personal details or credit card information in the real physical world. In other words, does your real-life behaviour accurately reflect your online behaviour. Often, just asking yourself this question can cause you to stop and think twice about keeping your information secure.

[For more information about cyber-attacks or to report a cyber-attack, refer to the netsafe.org.nz website or call toll-free on 0508 NETSAFE.](#)

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